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ABSTRACT

During the 1983-84 school year, 58 percent of the 27,700 private schools in the United States reported benefiting from publicly funded services. The source of these data is the National Survey of Private Schools, fall 1983, carried out by Westat, Inc., under contract with the Center for Education Statistics (CES). The survey supplemented the CES list of private schools with additional schools discovered through intensive investigation of 75 geographical areas. Questionnaires were sent to a sample of 2,298 of the schools thus identified, and responses were received from 1,869 (81 percent) of these schools. Catholic schools benefited most: students at 93 percent of the 9,700 Catholic schools received publicly funded services; while students at 36 percent of the 10,000 "other affiliated" schools and 42 percent of the 8,000 "not affiliated" schools received such services. Types of service include the following: (1) transportation; (2) library; (3) school lunch, milk; (4) health services; (5) remedial education; (6) bilingual education; (7) handicapped; (8) vocational education; (9) guidance; (10) speech therapy; and (11) other services. The largest sources of federal money spent in private schools are programs funded by Chapter 1 and Chapter 2 of the Education Consolidation and Improvement Act (ECIA), 1981. The appendix contains a brief description of these programs, as well as of standard errors for percentages presented in the bulletin. (MLF)

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Historical report
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PUBLICLY FUNDED SERVICES TO PRIVATE ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS AND STUDENTS, 1983-84

Publicly Funded Services

During the 1983-84 school year,[1] 58 percent of the Nation's 27,700 private schools reported benefiting from publicly funded services,[2] according to the Center for Education Statistics' (CES) National Survey of Private Schools. These services were generated from Federal, State, and local government sources.

Catholic schools benefited most: students at 93 percent of the 9,700 U.S. Catholic schools received publicly funded services (table 1 and figure 1). Students at 36 percent of the 10,000 "other affiliated" schools and 42 percent of the 8,000 "not affiliated" schools received such services. (Details of all private schools and enrollments are presented in table A.)

In a breakdown by type of service, students in Catholic schools made up more than 50 percent of the private school recipients in 8 of the 11 service categories (table 2). They included health services (82 percent Catholic), guidance (80 percent Catholic), library (80

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[1]The time period of this study came before the Aguilar vs. Felton decision of the U.S. Supreme Court, which ruled that public school teachers cannot teach Chapter 1 classes on the premises of religiously affiliated private schools.

[2]These do not include such commonly provided public services as police and fire protection or any church-funded services. Services reported are listed in table 2.

EA 020 340

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Figure 1.—Private schools served by publicly funded programs

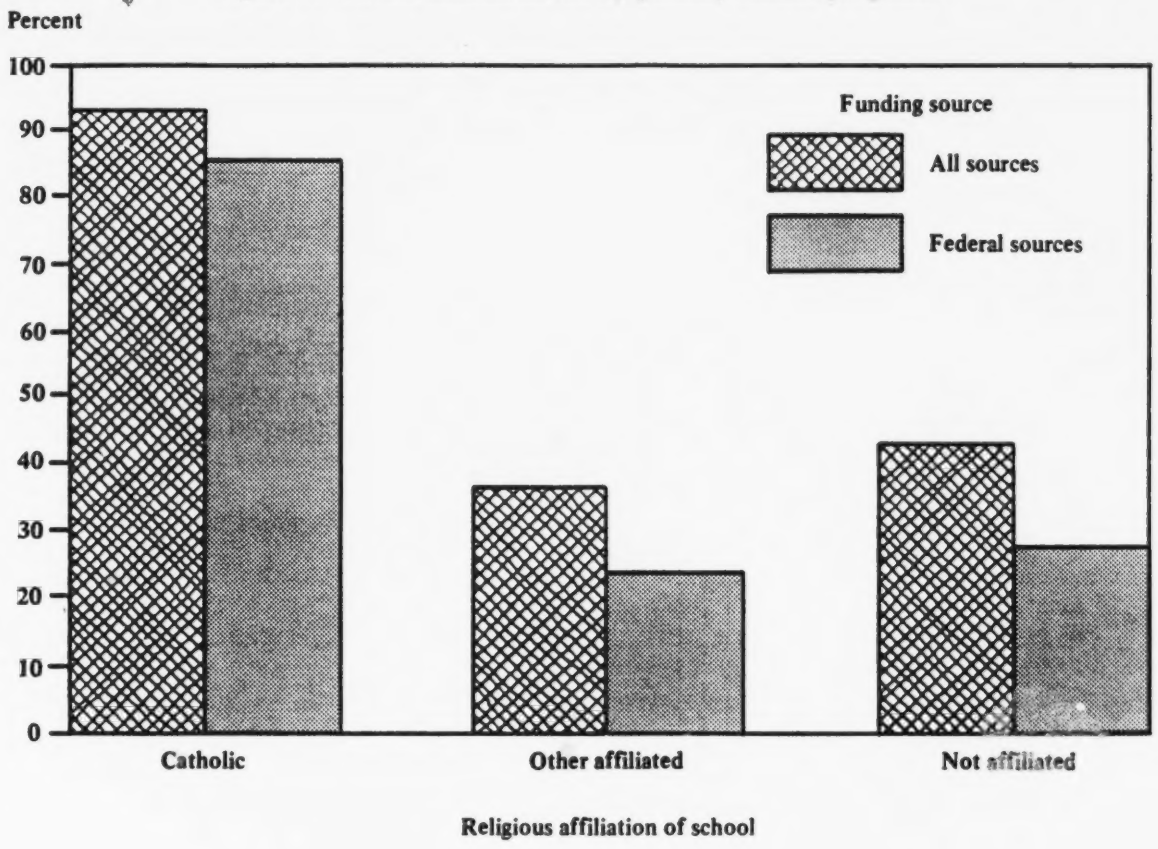


Table 1.--Private schools served by publicly funded programs, by religious affiliation and funding source: 1983-84 school year

Affiliation	All sources	Federal sources
	Percent	
Total	58	45
Catholic	93	85
Other affiliated	36	22
Not affiliated	42	27

percent Catholic), remedial education (79 percent Catholic), school lunch (77 percent Catholic), transportation (76 percent Catholic) and speech therapy (67 percent Catholic). Bilingual programs were split between Catholic (47 percent), "not affiliated" (40 percent), and "other affiliated" students (13 percent). Private school students receiving handicapped and vocational education services were primarily in the "not affiliated" schools. Students attending "other affiliated" schools received, at most, 15 percent of services in any category.

Table 2.--Percent of private school students who received publicly funded services, by type of service and religious affiliation of school: 1983-84 school year

Type of service	School affiliation		
	Catholic	Other affiliated	Not affiliated
	Percent		
Transportation	76	12	12
Library	80	12	8
School lunch, milk	77	15	8
Health services	82	11	6
Remedial education	79	5	15
Bilingual education	47	13	40
Handicapped	12	4	84
Vocational education	41	7	52
Guidance	80	4	16
Speech therapy	67	11	22
Other services	68	10	21

Note.--Because percentages are calculated on unrounded numbers, details may not add to totals.

Federally Funded Services

In 1983-84, 45 percent of private schools received some federally funded services (table 1). Most Catholic schools (85 percent) received services from federally funded programs. In contrast, 22 percent of "other affiliated" schools and 27 percent of "not affiliated" schools benefited from such programs.

As might be expected, most of the private school students who received federally funded services in 1983-84 attended Catholic schools (table 3). Catholic school students made up 78 percent of those receiving federally funded services, compared with 13 percent of students attending "other affiliated" schools and 9 percent of students attending "not affiliated" schools.

The largest sources of Federal money spent in private schools are Chapter 1 and Chapter 2 programs (Education Consolidation and Improvement Act (ECIA), 1981--see appendix for a brief description of these programs). Again, students in Catholic schools represented the largest segment of the private school students benefiting from these programs. Catholic students made up 77 percent of students receiving Chapter 1 benefits and 82 percent of those receiving services under Chapter 2. In contrast, students in "other affiliated" schools represented 9 percent and 12 percent, respectively. Similarly, students in "not affiliated" private schools constituted 14 percent of private school students receiving Chapter 1 and 7 percent of those receiving Chapter 2 services (table 3).

Table 3.--Percent of private school students who received federally funded services, by religious affiliation of school and funding source: 1983-84 school year

School affiliation	All private school students	Private school students receiving federally funded services		
		Any services	Chapter 1 services	Chapter 2 services
		Percent		
Total	100	100	100	100
Catholic	56	78	77	82
Other affiliated	24	13	9	12
Not affiliated	20	9	14	7

Note.--An example of how to read table: 78 percent of private school students who received federally funded services attended Catholic schools. Because percentages are calculated on unrounded numbers, details may not add to totals.

Table 4 and figure 2 indicate the percent of private schools providing federally funded services by level of instruction in 1983-84. While 56 percent of private schools were elementary schools, they constituted 71 percent of private schools receiving federally funded services.

Table 4.--Percent of private schools enrolling students who received services from selected federally funded programs, by level and funding source: 1983-84 school year

Level	All private schools	Private schools with students receiving federally funded services		
		Any services	Chapter 1 services	Chapter 2 services
	Percent			
Total	100	100	100	100
Elementary	56	71	81	75
Secondary	9	12	5	12
Combined	19	5	3	6
Other	15	12	11	7

Note.--An example of how to read table: 71 percent of all private schools enrolling students who receive federally funded services are elementary schools. Because percentages are calculated on unrounded numbers, details may not add to totals.

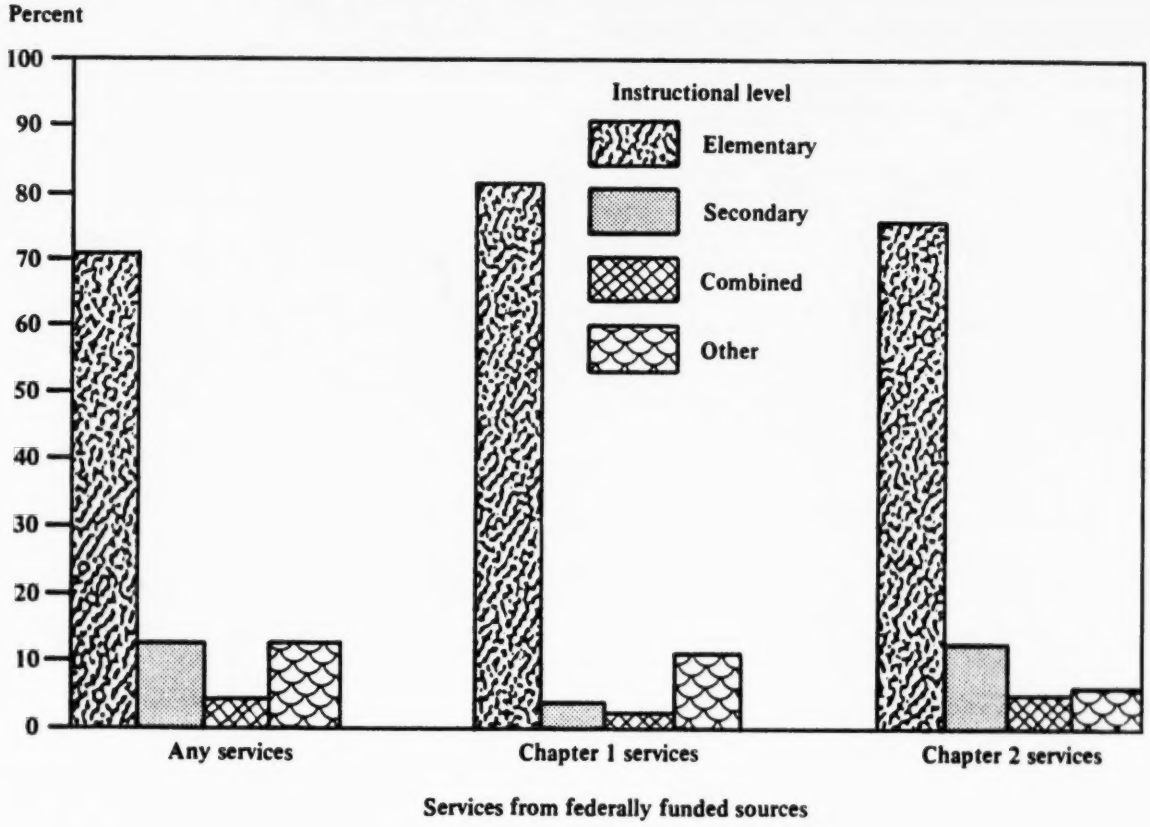
About the Survey

The source of these data is the National Survey of Private Schools, Fall 1983, carried out by Westat, Inc., under contract with the Center for Education Statistics (CES). This survey used two separate samples (one from a list and the other from an area frame) to obtain a more comprehensive selection of respondents than had previously been known to CES. This was accomplished by supplementing the CES list of private schools with additional schools discovered through intensive investigation of 75 geographical areas. Because the private school universe is not fully known and CES continually attempts to refine its definition, results presented here can be considered somewhat tentative.

To be considered for the survey, a school had to:

a. have a school day of at least 4 hours;
b. be in session at least 160 days per school year;
c. provide instruction to pupils at or above the first grade and below the postsecondary level;
d. be located in a place other than a private home; and
e. be privately administered.

Figure 2.—Percentage distribution of selected federally funded services in private schools, by level: 1983-84 school year



Questionnaires were sent to a sample of 2,298 of the schools thus identified. Responses were received from 1,869 of those schools. The responses were appropriately weighted to produce national estimates for various categories, some of which are included in this report.

Data Accuracy

Since the estimates in these tabulations are based on a sample, they may differ somewhat from the figures that would have been obtained if a complete census had been taken using the same questionnaires, instructions, and enumerators. Both sampling and nonsampling errors are possible in any estimate based upon a sample survey.

Nonsampling error may originate from confused or noncomparable responses, self-selection factors, and the like (e.g. item wording, data collection methods, and the time frame of the data collection). The full extent of nonsampling error is unknown.

Sampling errors arise from the chance departure of the sample from representativeness of the population. Tables of standard errors for percentages presented in this bulletin are in the appendix.

For More Information

Persons requiring more detailed information on this survey and its results should contact the survey project officer, Jeffrey Williams, at the Center for Education Statistics, 555 New Jersey Avenue NW., Washington D.C. 20208, telephone (202) 626-9002.

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Appendix: An Overview of the Education Consolidation and Improvement Act of 1981

Chapter 1 of the Education Consolidation and Improvement Act of 1981 (ECIA) (20 U. S. C. 3801), previously Title 1, ESEA, 1965, authorized Federal funds to be used by local education agencies (LEA's) to provide educational services to educationally deprived children who reside in areas with high concentrations of low-income families. Fifty-five percent of these children are from minority families. Typically these services are provided during the regular school day by trained specialists in separate classrooms. In some cases, instruction is offered after school.

Chapter 1 requires that, within a public school district, educationally deprived children who attend nonpublic schools and who live in a Chapter 1 project area should have the same opportunity to receive federally funded compensatory education services as their public school counterparts, even if such children are attending nonpublic schools outside the project area. The law also prescribes that, within a school district, expenditures from these programs "shall be equal" for public and nonpublic school students, "taking into account the number of such children to be served and the special educational needs of such children" (557(a) of Chapter 1).

Chapter 1 regulations stipulate that:

1. program funds are to be used to meet the special educational needs of educationally deprived children in nonpublic schools rather than as general aid in these schools;
2. in conducting the annual needs assessment, a public school district must take into account the needs of eligible students in nonpublic schools;
3. the public school district should exercise administrative direction and control of the program's funds and property for nonpublic students.

Chapter 2 merges 42 small, separately authorized categorical grant programs into one block grant. The purpose and intent of Congress for enacting ECIA Chapter 2 is stated in the legislation itself:

> "It is the further purpose and intent of Congress to financially assist state and local education agencies to improve elementary and secondary education (including preschool education) for children attending both public and private schools, and to do so in a manner designed to greatly reduce the enormous administrative and paperwork burden imposed on schools at the expense of their ability to educate children."

School districts use Chapter 2 funds for the following kinds of programs: materials acquisition, teacher inservice training, computer literacy, basic skills, guidance, gifted and talented, art education, career education, metric education, improved educational practice. Private schools use Chapter 2 funds primarily for materials acquisition.

Table A.--Number of private schools, enrollment, standard error and confidence interval, by religious affiliation of school: 1983-84 school year

Affiliation and enrollment	Number	Standard error	95 percent confidence interval	
			Lower	Upper
Total schools	27,700	710	26,300	29,100
Catholic schools	9,700	160	9,400	10,000
Other affiliated schools	10,000	480	9,000	10,900
Schools not religiously affiliated	8,000	440	7,100	8,800
Total enrollment	5,715,000	120,000	5,479,000	5,951,000

Note.--Numbers are estimates. All values are rounded based on the composite, full sample.

Table B.--Standard errors for percentage of private schools served by publicly funded programs, by religious affiliation: 1983-84 school year

Religious affiliation	All sources	Federal sources
Total private	1.5	1.7
Catholic	1.1	2.3
Other affiliated	2.6	2.6
Not affiliated	2.4	3.2

Table C.--Standard errors for percentage of publicly funded services received by private school students, by religious affiliation of school: 1983-84 school year

Type of service	Religious affiliation		
	Catholic	Other affiliated	Not affiliated
Transportation	2.0	1.5	1.4
Library	1.0	0.7	1.0
School lunch, milk	2.7	2.2	1.7
Health services	2.9	2.6	1.1
Remedial education	2.7	1.0	2.4
Bilingual education	15.3	6.4	16.6
Handicapped	2.1	0.6	2.2
Vocational education	10.9	1.4	10.1
Guidance	2.7	1.3	2.2
Speech therapy	6.8	4.3	4.6
Other services	9.2	5.5	6.4

Table D.--Standard errors for the percentage of private school students receiving federally funded services, by religious affiliation of school and funding source: 1983-84 school year

School affiliation	All Private school students	Private school students receiving federally funded services		
		Any services	Chapter 1 services	Chapter 2 services
Catholic	0.9	0.9	4.4	1.6
Other affiliated	0.9	0.8	3.2	1.5
Not affiliated	1.1	1.0	2.8	1.1

Table E.--Standard errors for the percentage of private schools receiving services from federally funded programs, by level and funding source: 1983-84 school year

Level	All private schools	Private schools with students receiving federally funded services		
		Any services	Chapter 1 services	Chapter 2 services
Elementary	1.3	1.7	2.4	1.8
Secondary	0.5	0.9	1.5	1.0
Combined	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.9
Other	0.8	1.2	1.6	1.5